

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6282

BILL NUMBER: SB 53

DATE PREPARED: Nov 6, 2001

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Seed Arbitration Council.

FISCAL ANALYST: John Parkey

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FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill adds a member to the Seed Arbitration Council selected by the State Seed Commissioner. This bill provides that the individual selected may not have a financial interest in the development, production, or planting of seed. It requires the Commissioner to select an individual who has knowledge or experience in patent law, intellectual property law, or other legal practice relating to agriculture, if possible.

Effective Date: July 1, 2002.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill would increase the number of persons on the Seed Arbitration Council from five to six. Members of the Council are not entitled to a per diem, but are entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses related to the Council's duties. The fiscal impact of the bill is expected to be minimal.

Background information: The Seed Arbitration Council is an administrative mechanism to settle certain disputes related to the civil suits against seed sellers. The Council may be called into session by the State Seed Commissioner or by a chairman selected from the Council membership. The Council has not received a complaint requiring it to meet since its inception in 1998.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Office of the Indiana State Seed Commissioner.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Larry Nees, Seed Administrator, Office of the Indiana State Seed Commissioner, 765-494-1557.